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## PRESS RELEASE

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### **United States Signs Memorandum of Understanding to Support Primary Education in Sokoto State**

**Abuja** – The U.S. government, through the Agency for International Development (USAID), announces its continuing support to the education sector in Sokoto state with the signing of a memorandum of understanding (MOU) by the USAID Mission Director Michael T. Harvey and His Excellency the Governor of Sokoto Aminu Waziri Tambuwal.

This five-year MOU sets out the shared and individual commitments for collaboration in the education sector made by both USAID and the Government of Sokoto and provides a framework for mutual accountability for education activities in Sokoto State. The MOU supports the Sokoto state government's goals and targets in its education sector strategic plans and establishes a preliminary plan for joint monitoring and evaluation of progress.

*"The United States commends Sokoto State for its extraordinary efforts to provide greater learning opportunities for its children. This MOU will expand the partnership between USAID and Sokoto State to improve primary education in Sokoto," said USAID Mission Director Michael Harvey.*

USAID supports Nigeria's efforts to improve the quality of and access to basic education. Currently, USAID implements two activities that support Sokoto State efforts to improve the education sector: the Northern Education Initiative Plus and the Leadership, Empowerment, Advocacy and Development. These activities build state and local government capacity and systems that will teach approximately 2 million primary school children how to read and allow nearly 500,000 children the opportunity to attend classes in community-based learning centers by the year 2020.

For additional information, please contact Erin Holleran at [Abujadoc@usaid.gov](mailto:Abujadoc@usaid.gov).

*About USAID: USAID partners to end extreme poverty and promote resilient, democratic societies while advancing our security and prosperity. In its partnership with Nigeria, the United States strengthens social stability through social services, supports transparent and accountable governance, promotes a more market-led economy, and enhances Nigeria's capacity as a responsible regional and trade partner.*

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<http://nigeria.usembassy.gov> and [www.usaid.gov/ng](http://www.usaid.gov/ng)

